

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Therkorn for his time during the telephone conversation with Applicants' attorneys on December 5, 2006. During this conversation, Applicants' attorneys discussed the filing of Declarations Under 1.132 pursuant to MPEP 2132.01. The Examiner indicated that such declarations would overcome the existing rejections of claims 1, 2, 5-12. Applicants have filed such declarations herewith.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application, of which claims 3 and 4 have been previously withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 2, and 5-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Journal of Planar Chromatography, Vol. 11, pages 244-246 by Nurok ("Nurok") in view of U.S. Patent Serial No. 3,864,250 to Perry ("Perry"). Claims 11 and 12 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nurok in view of Perry in further view of U.S. Patent Serial No. 4,671,870 to Tompa ("Tompa"). Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nurok in view of Perry in further view of U.S. Patent Serial No. 5,248,426 to Stillian ("Stillian").

Nurok Is Not Prior Art

The Examiner rejected claims 1,2, and 5-12 as being unpatentable over Nurok in view of the various references cited above. However, Nurok is not a valid prior art reference to Applicant's present patent application. First, Nurok was published and publicly available within one year of the earliest priority date of the present patent application. Specifically, Nurok was published and publicly available on October 26, 1998 as established by the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 of Professor Doctor Szabolcs Nyiredy, which was filed on October 2, 2006 in this application. Further, Applicants enclose herewith Declarations Under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 signed

by each inventor establishing that the Applicants are the sole inventors of the subject matter described in Nurok and disclosed and claimed in the present patent application. Consequently, pursuant to MPEP 2132.01, Nurok is not a valid prior art reference. Because Nurok is not a prior art reference, the rejections of claim 1, 2, and 5-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), which rely in part on Nurok, are overcome. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, and 5-12 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

For at least the reasons provided above, Applicants believe that claims 1, 2, 5-12 are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 with reference to file 29920-73303.

Respectfully submitted



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